

Claims

[c1] We claim:

1. An adapter for holding a fast food container in a standard cylindrical automobile cup holder to prevent spilling of its contents comprising:

a) a lower member; and

b) at least two flexible upper members, each being in an original position such that the distance between the upper members is smaller than the distance required to accommodate the fast food container.

[c2] 2. The adapter of claim 1 wherein the lower member is a cylinder.

[c3] 3. The adapter of claim 1 wherein the lower member is a conical section.

[c4] 4. The adapter of claim 1 wherein the lower member is rigid.

[c5] 5. The adapter of claim 1 wherein the lower member is not hollow.

[c6] 6. The adapter of claim 1 wherein the lower member is hollow.

- [c7] 7. The adapter of claim 6 further comprising a plurality of protruding strips on the surface of the lower member for positionally stabilizing the adapter in the automobile cup holder or for reinforcing the lower member so as to provide rigidity.
- [c8] 8. The adapter of claim 7 wherein the protruding strips are tapered.
- [c9] 9. The adapter of claim 7 wherein the number of protruding strips is six.
- [c10] 10. The adapter of claim 1 wherein each flexible upper member is mechanically biased to return to its original position when not deformed.
- [c11] 11. The adapter of claim 1 wherein the number of flexible upper members is two.
- [c12] 12. The adapter of claim 1 wherein each flexible upper member is a section of a cylindrical surface.
- [c13] 13. An adapter for holding a fast food container in a standard cylindrical automobile cup holder to prevent spilling of its contents comprising:
a) a means for fitting the adapter into the automobile cup holder; and
b) a means for holding and stabilizing the fast food con-

tainer.

- [c14] 14. The adapter of claim 13 wherein the fitting means is rigid.
- [c15] 15. The adapter of claim 14 wherein the fitting means is made rigid by reinforcing means.
- [c16] 16. The adapter of claim 13 wherein the holding means is flexible.
- [c17] 17. The adapter of claim 16 wherein the holding means expands from an original configuration to an expanded configuration to accommodate the fast food container upon insertion of the container.
- [c18] 18. The adapter of claim 17 wherein the holding means returns to its original configuration upon removal of the container.